

Government of the District of Columbia ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3/4G CHEVY CHASE, BARNABY WOODS, HAWTHORNE

COMMISSIONERS

- 3/4 G-01 Abraham Clayman, Secretary
- 3/4 G-02 Chanda Tuck-Garfield, Treasurer
- 3/4 G-03 Randy Speck, Chair
- 3/4 G-04 Rebecca Maydak
- 3/4 G-05 Gerald Malitz
- 3/4 G-06 Dan Bradfield
- 3/4 G-07 Christopher Fromboluti, Vice-Chair

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Meeting Minutes ANC 3/4G Public Meeting February 10, 2020 Chevy Chase Community Center, 7:00-9:00 pm 5601 Connecticut Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20015

<u>Summary:</u>

- MPD Captain Edward Bernat discussed crime protection measures.
- Representatives of DDOT and WMATA presented on the Oregon Avenue Reconstruction Project.
- The Commission approved a resolution providing comments on the Office of Planning's proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan.
- Commissioner Fromboluti provided an update on the design process for the modernization of the Chevy Chase Community Center.
- The Commission approved testimony to be given at the DC Council's performance oversight hearings for WMATA and the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Introductions and Adoption of Agenda (00:00:00):

Commissioner Speck called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Commissioners introduced themselves. Commissioners Bradfield, Clayman, Fromboluti, Malitz, Maydak, and Speck were present. A quorum was declared. 35 people attended the meeting. Commissioner Speck reviewed the meeting procedures. The agenda was adopted by a vote of 6-0.

Commissioner Announcements (00:04:35)

Commissioner Speck announced that the Washington Area Bicyclist Association will hold Vision Zero Community Listening sessions. Residents can find details at <u>http://bit.ly/39HCm3t</u>.

Commissioner Speck announced that the DC Council is holding its annual performance oversight hearings for each agency of the District government. Performance oversight hearings are open to the public and anyone can present testimony in person or in writing. ANC 3/4G has participated in a number of performance oversight

hearings already and will participate in others in the future. The schedule for all the hearings and information about testifying is available at <u>http://bit.ly/2tRwm9l</u>.

Commissioner Speck announced that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) has released its proposed FY21 budget. Commissioner Speck announced that ANC 3/4G will testify at the hearing opposing the proposed elimination of the E6 bus route, pending approval of testimony later in the meeting. Residents can read more about the proposed FY21 budget at <u>http://bit.ly/39MuxK5</u>.

Commissioner Maydak announced that Lafayette Park Recreation Center construction has begun. Portable toilets have been placed on site as part of the construction plan and are available to the public per the ANC's request.

Community Announcements (00:09:05)

Gabrielle Priest, a Ward 4 Liaison from the Mayor's Office of Community Relations, made several announcements:

- The Mayor is holding public forums where residents can learn about and discuss the city budget. Residents can learn more about these forums and sign up to attend at <u>http://bit.ly/2RWufsP</u>.
- The Mayor encourages all residents to participate in the 2020 Census. Residents can learn more at http://bit.ly/2GyDQR2.
- Residents can learn more about DDOT's paving efforts at <u>http://bit.ly/39pj6rm.</u>

Dee Smith, deputy chief of staff in Councilmember Cheh's office, made one announcement:

• Councilmember Cheh supports the ANC's proposed resolution regarding the Comprehensive Plan.

Sam Stephens, legislative assistant in Councilmember Todd's office, made these announcements:

- Councilmember Todd will introduce emergency legislation to regulate the parking of car sharing vehicles in the neighborhood.
- Councilmember Todd opposes the elimination of the E6 bus route and supports the ANC's position on this issue.
- The Committee on Government Operations chaired by Councilmember Todd will be holding performance oversight hearings during the next few weeks. Residents can access the full schedule at <u>http://bit.ly/2tRwm91.</u>
- Councilmember Todd recently introduced legislation at the most recent legislative meeting of the DC Council. Residents can access a full list of recently introduced legislation at <u>http://bit.ly/38n4uJe</u>.
- Councilmember Todd will be holding office hours in the Ward. Residents can access the Councilmember's schedule at <u>http://bit.ly/31JOeiP</u>.

Stephen Marencic, a Consumer Outreach Specialist from the Office of the People's Counsel, offered his services to residents and explained the role of the Office of the People's Counsel. Residents can learn more about the Office at <u>http://bit.ly/2uAdfkm</u>.

<u>Presentation by MPD Second District Captain Edward Bernat and discussion on crime protection</u> <u>measures (00:23:20)</u>

Captain Bernat announced that MPD's Yahoo Group no longer exists and that MPD will be using NextDoor instead to communicate with residents. He also provided a handout regarding theft prevention from automobiles and information about the Department's camera rebate program.

Captain Bernat made several announcements:

- He works with officers in PSAs 201, 202, and 203.
- There have been 44 reports of thefts from automobiles recorded this year so far compared with 22 by this time last year.
- MPD is increasing patrols in PSA 201 and assisted Montgomery County in making an arrest of an individual thought to be in possession of over 300 stolen items, including some from the District.
- Businesses should secure doors and windows to prevent false alarms.

A resident asked about recent reports of crime in the 5500 block of Connecticut Avenue, NW. Captain Bernat explained that MPD is planning staffing changes that will include foot patrols to suppress crime in that area.

Ron Kihn, a resident, asked about the degree to which surveillance technology is being used. Captain Bernat explained that the Department uses "bait" cars or bikes and will arrest individuals who steal "bait" items.

Ted Gest, a resident, asked what other advice the Department would offer to prevent automobile theft besides locking vehicles and removing valuable items. Captain Bernat explained that the Department is making every effort to prevent thefts from automobiles.

DDOT and WMATA report on the status of Oregon Avenue reconstruction and the E6 bus detour (00: <u>45:25)</u>

Dennis Howland, project manager at the Department of Transportation, introduced Joseph Chukwueke, a representative of AECOM. Mr. Chukwueke stated that the milling of the roadway was complete and that the staging for the project is complete. The staging area is at corner of Beech Street and Oregon Ave NW.

Mr. Chukwueke stated that the project is running on schedule. DC Plug and manhole work is 50% complete. It is almost complete for the side where work is taking place. DC Water's installation of sanitary pipe and a manhole is nearly complete for the current phase. The project is expected to shift its work area to the western side of Oregon Avenue (Phase 1B) in the middle of March.

Dennis Howland mentioned that Oregon Observer, a newsletter for the project, will be distributed monthly. Residents can access the newsletter at <u>http://bit.ly/323Wytl</u>.

Mr. Howland stated that Pepco had moved poles to the wrong location and that this caused a small delay but that current work was moving more quickly than expected so the overall project was on track.

Paul Bricker, chief operating officer at Knollwood, asked for a meeting with DDOT regarding Phase 3 to ensure emergency vehicle access to Knollwood.

A resident asked about pedestrian access to the E6 bus stop on Oregon Avenue during the construction project.

Jamie Cepler, from WMATA, discussed the E6 bus detour. Residents can see the current E6 route at <u>http://bit.ly/39Tp6ZZ</u>.

Presentation by the Department of Motor Vehicles Ticket Ombudsman

No representative from the Department of Motor Vehicles was present so the Commission skipped this agenda item.

Discussion of report from the ANC's Comprehensive Plan Task Force and possible voted on a resolution addressing the Office of Planning's proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan (01:03:50)

Commissioner Speck explained the Commission's process for submitting comments on the Office of Planning's Comprehensive Plan. The Commission formed the Comprehensive Plan Task Force (http://bit.ly/373tRj1) on October 28, 2019. The Task Force was composed of seven residents and four Commissioners. It was tasked with creating a report to present recommendations to the full Commission. The Commission would then adopt a resolution to submit to the Office of Planning. The Office of Planning has publicly committed to responding to comments from Commissions as part of the revision of the Comprehensive Plan. The deadline for ANCs to submit comments is February 14th. Residents can read more information on the Comprehensive Plan Task Force at http://bit.ly/2SxWVZo.

Commissioner Speck explained that the Commission has reviewed the final Task Force report, which can be accessed at <u>http://bit.ly/2SxWVZo</u>.

Commissioner Speck introduced a resolution summarizing the ANC's comments on the proposed Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Malitz and Commissioner Speck proposed minor conforming changes which Commissioner Speck accepted as friendly amendments. The Commission approved the amendments to the resolution by a vote of 6-0.

Ryan Keefe, a resident, expressed his disapproval of the resolution because it did not accept all of OP's proposals.

Joanne Lynn, a resident, asked whether there were any recommendations in the resolution regarding access for residents with disabilities. Ms. Lynn requested that the Commission consider making amendments that were supportive of residents with disabilities.

Lee Schoenecker, a resident, expressed his support for the resolution.

Pat Roth, a resident, expressed her support for the resolution and advised the Commission to be mindful of what has occurred on Wisconsin Avenue in terms of increased development.

Andrea Rosen, a resident, expressed an objection to the resolution. She stated that the resolution should not include a statement supporting increased density along Connecticut Avenue.

Ron Kihn, a resident, expressed that inclusionary zoning beyond a certain percentage would make development projects unaffordable for commercial developers. He also expressed his support for the resolution.

Dave Engel, a resident, expressed his support for the resolution.

Laura Phinizy, a resident, expressed her opposition to the resolution and asked for the removal of a statement supporting increased density in the neighborhood.

A resident expressed opposition to increased density and concern about the introduction of too much density to the area.

Robert Gordon, a resident, expressed his view that it might be a better tactic to oppose the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan that increase density.

A resident expressed her gratitude for the work of the Task Force and the Commission.

Commissioner Speck proposed that the resolution include a statement supporting buildings with access for residents with disabilities. The amendment was approved by a vote of 6-0.

Commissioner Speck stated that the ANC and the community should work together to create a prototype of a Small Area Plan before the Council approves the Comprehensive Plan.

The Commission voted 6-0 to approve the resolution as amended. Residents can read the resolution as submitted at <u>http://bit.ly/323XwpQ</u>.

Commissioner Speck proposed a resolution to the Office of Planning to include a separate section in the Comprehensive Plan on light pollution. This resolution would support the comments provided by the Mayor's Advisory Panel on Streetlights. The Commission voted to approve the resolution by a vote of 6-0. This vote occurred at 01:50:58 in the video, after the update on the Community Center modernization design process.

Update on the Chevy Chase Community Center modernization design process (01:49:25)

Commissioner Fromboluti announced that the Commission is waiting to hear from the Department of Parks and Recreation about the date for the next public meeting updating the community on the modernization of the Chevy Chase Community Center. The draft design concept has been published, and the Task Force will provide comments on the design to DPR. DPR is expected to hold a public meeting in March on the design.

<u>Discussion and possible vote on testimony to be given at the Council's Performance Oversight hearing for</u> <u>the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and the Department of Parks and</u> <u>Recreation (01:53:05)</u>

Commissioner Speck discussed proposed testimony for the performance oversight hearing for WMATA. The testimony would oppose the elimination of the E6 bus. The Commission approved the testimony by a vote of 6-0.

The Commission approved testimony by a vote of 6-0 that urges DPR to ensure that there is funding and planning in place to ensure that the programming at the Chevy Chase Community Center continues during the modernization.

Commission Business (02:02:20)

The Commission approved the minutes for the January 27, 2020 meeting by a vote of 7-0.

The Commission approved no checks.

Potential agenda items for the February 24, 2020 meeting include:

- Vote on testimony to be given at the Council's Performance Oversight hearings for the Department of Aging and Community Living, the Office of Planning, Department of General Services, Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, DC Water, and Archives and Office of Public Records.
- Discussion of concerns about parking by car rental or car sharing companies on residential streets and the possible need for new legislation
- Presentation by WMATA and discussion of WMATA's proposal to merge the E6 and M4 bus routes.
- Discussion and possible vote on Broad Branch Market's application to the Board of Zoning Adjustment for a variance to use its small basement space for a fitness center.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm (02:00:00).

Signed:

Randy Speck Chair Abe Clayman Secretary